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REMARKS

In view of the preceding amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 were pending in the Application. Claims 1, 3-6, and 12-13 were objected to, were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Cooper (US 6,308,890). Claim 12 was rejected as being anticipated, e.g., by Walter (US 4,510,382). Claims 4, 5, 7, and 9-11, were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious and unpatentable over Cooper '890 in view of Walter '382 and Kumamoto (US Patent Application 2003/0163424). Herein, Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 are canceled, and Claims 3, 5, 7, and 12-13 are amended. No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

All of the Examiner's suggestions for corrections to the various Claims have been adopted. The objected to Claims 3, 5, and 7, have been corrected and rewritten in independent form because such action was indicated as resulting in an allowance for those Claims.

Accordingly, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending application, with pending Claims 3, 5, 7, and 9-13, is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

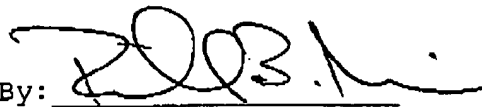
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Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorney would expedite matters, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned below.

Dated: January 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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